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**North Hollywood Man Sentenced  
in Killing of Roommate**

A North Hollywood man was sentenced today for killing a roommate that tried to stop him from attacking a woman, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Manuel García, 23, was sentenced to 26 years to life in state prison by Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Michael Jesic of the Van Nuys Branch.

A jury found García guilty of first-degree murder on Feb. 24. Jurors also found true an allegation of use of a deadly weapon, a knife and a pot.

According to prosecutors, García killed Jorge Hortencio Valladares, 67, on June 2, 2012 at an apartment in the 12000 block of Vanowen Street in North Hollywood. The two men shared the apartment with several other roommates including the defendant's live-in girlfriend.

On the night of the incident, García got into a violent argument with his girlfriend. Valladares called 911 to ask for help because he could hear the defendant and his girlfriend fighting. When the victim tried to intervene, García violently beat him on the head with a pot and stabbed him over 30 times with a kitchen knife, according to testimony at trial.

Deputy District Attorneys Brenda Lee and Adan Montalban tried the case.

The murder was investigated by the Los Angeles Police Department.

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**About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office**

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Annually, the [Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](http://da.lacounty.gov) prosecutes more than 60,000 felonies and 140,000 misdemeanor crimes.